SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 4 AUGUST 2002

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at www.sarl.org.za and on packet bulletin boards.

SARL news invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to amateurs to sarlnews@hotmail.com not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It would be appreciated if you could do it in both English and Afrikaans.

SARL HF CONTEST AND RESULTS

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Stay tuned for more details on these and other news items.

You are tuned to ZS6SRL. Visit the SARL Website or call the SARL office which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

Now for the news in detail:

SARL HF CONTEST AND RESULTS OF FIRST LEG

The SARL phone contest will be held this coming Sunday 4 August between 15:00 and 18:00 SAST. The aim of the HF phone contest is for participants to contact as many amateurs in southern Africa as possible on the 20, 40 and 80m amateur bands. The following frequencies are recommended; 14,125 to 14,175 MHz, 7,040 to 7,080 MHz and 3,600 to 3,650 MHz. Participants can be either single or multiple operators. The exchange is RS(T) and a consecutive serial number starting with 001. Scoring is 1 point per contact, 2 points for area in each band and 2 points for contact with a station on all three bands. The areas are ZS1, ZS2, ZS3, ZS4, ZS5, ZS6 and Area 7 (eastern area); 3DA, 7P, 7Q, 9J, C9, Z2, ZS8 and Area 8 (western area) and A2, D2, V5, 2D9 and ZS7. Certificates will be awarded to the first three places and the highest single band score in the contest. There is also a trophy for the highest combined score in the phone and CW contests. Logsheets must be sent to "The Contest Committee, P O Box 48052, Hercules 0030."

The results of the first leg is as follows:

1st: Michael Roodt ZS6BHF Total points 290 2nd: Dennis Green ZS4BS Total points 220 3rd: Bill Norval ZS5KD Total points 190

Only three competition entry logs were received, and a couple of check logs. The committee was concerned at the lack of entries, however, it was during the entry period that the club address was changed and some entries could have been lost.

The DARC wish to congratulate the winners and hope that the next leg of the 80m QSO party, which will take place on the first Thursday of October from 19:00 to 22:00 will be as well supported.

ISS TO GET TWO MORE AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNAS

The last two Amateur Radio antennas are scheduled to be installed this month on the International Space Station's Zvezda Service Module–the crew's living quarters. The specially designed flexible-tape antennas will support Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) VHF and UHF operation and are similar to an antenna installed last January 14 by the Expedition 4 crew.

ARISS International Group Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, says current plans call for Expedition 5 crew members to carry out space walks (called extra-vehicular activities or EVAs) August 16 and August 22 during which the two ARISS antennas could be installed. The all-ham Expedition 5 crew members are commander Valery Korzun, RZ3FK, cosmonaut Sergei Treschev, RZ3FU, and US astronaut Peggy Whitson, KC5ZTD.

Bauer said once these antennas are installed and some tests planned for September are completed in Russia, additional ISS ham radio equipment will be installed in the Service Module.

ARISS initial ham station gear–a single-band Ericsson 5-W hand-held transceiver for 2 meters–is installed in the Zarya Functional Cargo Block (FCB) using an antenna initially installed to aid docking operations and EVAs. The new VHF-UHF antennas and a flexible-tape HF antenna also installed January 25 are designed for and dedicated to ARISS operations. There is no HF gear aboard the ISS at this point.

Installation of the new antenna on Zvezda makes possible two separate ham stations aboard Space Station Alpha and can provide multiband operation. Plans down the road call for installing HF gear at the ARISS station as well as higher power VHF and UHF equipment.

Packet operators are advised to stick with UNPROTO operations whenever possible and to use the Packet Mailbox System (PMS) only sparingly, if at all, for brief messages.

ARISS is an international project sponsored jointly by ARRL, NASA and AMSAT. A paper entitled "2001: an Amateur Radio Space Odyssey on the International Space Station," which details the development of ARISS and discusses the four new ARISS antennas, is available via the ARISS Web site http://ariss.gsfc.nasa.gov/EVAs/amsat01.pdf.

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT NARC

The SARL regrets to announce that the administrative officer at the NARC, ms. Marlette Kroukamp, has left the employ of the SARL. To minimise the disruption and service interruptions, council has decided to improve continuity by employing a second person on a half day basis

The SARL thus has a vacancy for a half day post at the NARC at Radiokop. Council intends filling this vacancy with a radio amateur having his, or her, own transport. The incumbebt will be expected to do general administrative work, including liaison with members, at the NARC on weekdays between 08:00 and 13:00.

Persons who reside in the vicinity of the NARC and are interested in this post, can obtain more information by contacting Fritz Sutherland, ZS6ASF before or on Wednesday 7th August 2002. His phone number appears in every Radio ZS but is repeated here: 012 997 1114 and 083 304 0028.

SAATI TO HOLD A LINUX LABORATORY

On Saturday 17 August 2002 SAATI plans to hold a Linux Laboratory. The idea of the event is to help people to get started in Linux. So a person would bring his Personal Computer, without keyboard and screen and at the laboratory Linux will then be installed on the machine.

If someone currently has Linux installed, but can't get it to work, knowledgable persons will be available to get it up and running. No fee will be charged! It is also open to any person, young and not so young.

Other organisations are also welcome to be present at the event. They may market their services and products on the periphery. It is intended to get a supplier of reconditioned hard-drives to be present, if somebody does not have enough disk space to install Linux a reconditioned hard drive can be acquired.

The absolute minimum specification for a machine to support Linux is i386, 4Mb RAM and 100Mb disk space, but this is a very tight installation. The recommeded minimum would be a i486, 16Mb RAM and 2,5GB disk space.

The venue for the event would be Clapham High School and it should start at 9 am.

If you would like to enquire, please contact Louis Kruger at e-mail louis.kruger@iscor.com or 082-336-2597 as well as any member of the management. See you there!

NEXT RAE

The next RAE will be held on 17 October 2002. The closing date for registration is 10 September 2002. The registration forms are available on the SARL website at www.sarl.org.za or can be requested telephonically from the SARL office at 011 675 2393. The registration fee for the examination is R250,00. This amount includes the license fee for the current year and the costs of the certificate from OCASA.

CLUB NEWS

VAAL TRIANGLE CLUB

Please note that the Vaal Triangle Club repeater which was operating on 145,375MHz has changed frequency. The new frequency is 145,6375MHz. The repeater has a 12,5KHz filter fitted. It is requested to please keep the deviation levels low, in accordance with the 12,5KHz repeater protocol.

We also have a weekly bulletin transmitted on Sunday evenings at 20:30 on the 2m repeater as well as on 80m on a frequency of 3,6375MHz.

SANDTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Sandton Amateur radio Club will once again be running an RAE course for students wishing to write the examination in October 2002. Lectures are held at the NARC at Radiokop (Honeydew) every Thursday evening. Registration will take place on Teusday 6th August at 19:00.

AMATEUR GOODS FOR SALE

OM Kalle ZR6KMP, residing at 220 Corlett Drive in Bramley is relocating and has a lot of surplus electronic, radio and test equipment for sale. He is having an open house on Saturday the 10th of August as well as on the 17th of August. Trading starts at 09:00 till 15:00 and tea, coffee and cold drinks will be for sale. There is parking for 20 cars inside the premises and lots more outside.

This bulletin was compiled by Martin, ZS6ABU and read by……from ……as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 21560, 9750 and 7082 kHz and 145,625MHz in East London, 145,650 in Durban and 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 20:00 CAT on 3215 kHz. ARMI is sponsored by Telkom and Sentech.

Also join the SARL President's net which is on the air at noon on Sundays on 7082 kHz.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL, thank you for joining us. Also a big word of thanks to those persons supply news for these bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.